

# Federal City Performing Arts Association

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 20, 1999  
2801 M St., NW, Washington, DC

**Present:** Darrell Lewis, Fred Boykin, Jerry Carpenter, Jeff Peirce, Thom Gibb, Chip Heath, Kris Marshall, Joe Vignali, Steve Herman, Gordon McGraw  
**Absent:** Gordon Tanner  
**Staff:** Greg Ruffer, John Perkins

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### **I. Call to Order**

President Lewis called meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

Herman moves and Vignali seconds to approval of the minutes. Unanimously approved.

### **III. Audit Presentation**

Perkins introduced Larry Bormel of BG & Associates who conducted the yearly audit. A review of the steps of the audit were presented along with an explanation of ratings. FCPAA received an "Unqualified Opinion" when is the best that can be achieved. General observations concerning the statement was that FCPAA needed to have more contributor, sponsor, and foundation funds; that revenue / expense ratios have not varied much over the past few years; and a general need for external support was needed from groups such as the Cultural Alliance.

### **IV. Board Position**

The Board reviewed the resume of Mark Ohnmacht as a candidate for an open community board position. Ohnmacht has served as Executive Director of the Cathedral Choral Society since 1996. He has served as Executive Director of the Fairfax Symphony, General Manager of Nassau Symphony, Executive Director of the Contemporary Music forum, and General Manager of the Prince George's Philharmonic. He serves as a Board Secretary for the Woodley Ensemble, an Advisory Board member of the Washington Men's Camerata and has been active in many other groups.

**Peirce moved to accept Ohnmacht as a new board member, Carpenter seconds.** Perkins expressed his support for the appointment and it was to asked if Ohnmacht if he would take a two year term.  
**Unanimously approved.**

### **V. Finance Report**

Appreciation was expressed to Perkins for his contribution to completing the audit. Peirce explained the '99 deficit by indicating that expenditures such as \$2,600 for the Spring concert and \$11,400 for production of the Pride concert along with less revenue from season tickets, holiday and spring tickets sales, socials/fundraisers, auction, and largely by the lack of merchandise sales contributed to the loss. Corrective actions for FY2000 were explained: movement of holiday concert to a church, continue profitable projects like "Little Shop", reduce ticket sales expectations, reduce merchandising expectations, reduced Capital Club expectations and the changing of the fundraising strategy.

**Peirce moves to call a membership meeting for the presentation of the Finance Report during Retreat as per the bylaws; Vignali seconds. Unanimously approved.**

Current number indicate that Dues are remain concurrent with last year, scholarships issues need budgeted, still need to improve merchandise sales and secure sponsorships.

**Gibb moves the acceptance of the finance report, Herman seconds. Unanimously approved.**



**IV. Music Division**

See Music Division report for details. Ruffer continues to have staff meetings. Ruffer presented concert production concepts for the season. An invitation is being sent to LGCW to join GMCW for the Pride concert.

**V. Executive Director**

Perkins is in the process of accepting the Grant from the DC Arts and Humanities, United Airlines proposal being pursued, Horsley memorial is in process, end of year appeal and Family and Friends events being planned, GMCW Raffle in process. Perkins announced that PF will be singing for NOVAM during the World AIDS Day event, Wittman Walker caroling event needs members, and the Feb. newsletter will talk about upcoming community events. FCPAA joined the Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts and the DC Gay Art Consortium is being formed.

**VI. President's Report**

Lewis presented the two responsibilities of the Board: Policy setting and Fundraising. He encouraged members to be active during the November 4 Capital Club GALA. Our donors should be personally greeted and hear of our appreciation for their support. The New Century Circle Fund proposed by the Capital Club would offer 50% support for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year concert and 50% support for an on-going endowment. Lewis asked each member of the board to contribute to the fund. Gibb and Carpenter indicated a need to define the fund's rules of use carefully.

**VII. Artistic Advisory Guidance**

Parameters are needed to assist the Artistic Advisory Committee in the planning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season. Vignali asked for direction, what is the responsibility of the group for next season? Ruffer needs not to be involved in a conflict of planning for a season that could possibly be lead by another director. The new director would need the ability to help plan the upcoming season. Lewis announced that Herman is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season chairman. Carpenter insisted that the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary group be defined with membership, purpose and scope for the December meeting and that the Artistic Advisory not proceed with planning the season until further notice so that conflicts in planning may be avoided.

Carpenter asked that a project team be created for the Marshall Commission.

**VIII. Sabbatical Policy**

After review of the draft a vote was deferred to the next meeting while changes to the text were made.

**IX. Director Search**

Vignali reported that 15 requests for information packages have been received. A proposal for the composition of the search committee was made: Jim Williams, David Taylor, Joe Cannon, Eric Johnson, and Andrew Cardonier.


**Carpenter moved to accept the composition of the committee, McGraw second. Motion approved with one abstention.**

**X. New Business**

Website administration: Requests were made to establish ownership of the domains and to open discussions with administrators so that the site could be updated by more than one person.

**XI. Adjournment**

**Gibb moves for adjournment, Herman seconds, Unanimous in favor.**

  
Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Carpenter – Secretary, FCPAA

GMCW affirms the Gay experience and promotes a culture of diversity through musical and performance excellence